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United States Patent
Marc Strickland-Chris Arendt

Double Cooler "The Cooler Cooler" ice and beverage combination.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION & SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The Double Cooler was invented from frustration with the current state-of-the-art beverage storage device used by the construction industry and many others. The current device is a five gallon insulated container that is designed and marketed only for the containment of providing drinking water or other beverage and is dispersed with a simple faucet near the base.

Since the construction industry has discovered that it is very worthwhile to provide a mineral replenishment beverage as an alternative of water for their work crews, the general method of use has been to combine a five-gallon-mix pouch of dry powdered product with water and ice to fill the container. As the ice melts, the product is diluted and is not suitable for re-use. Any remaining product must be discarded which is inefficient.

The invention of The Double Cooler provides a five-gallon container that is wrapped around a two-gallon container. There are two simple faucets at the front where the user can tap from either container. The five-gallon container is suitable for mixing a five-gallon-mix pouch of beverage product with water while the center container is filled with ice and topped off with water. The ice container cools the beverage product without dilution and also provides an ice water option for the user. The push button of the left hand faucet is colored lemon-lime green to designate the beverage product: a multi-lingual cue to the mineral replenishment beverage.

The invention of The Double Cooler through its design and features of the core, venting system, drainage system and the design of the lid clearly provides a excellent container for the means of providing 1) drinking water 2) mineral beverage "non-diluted" 3) and a way to drain the two-gallon container without draining the five-gallon container. The Double Cooler is "round" and designed to replace the current state-of-the-art "round" cooler via its size so that will fit into the existing brackets that the contractor may have purchased and mounted on his vehicle.

The PTO did not receive the following
listed item(s) Sheet of Transmittal

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PRIOR ART

A patent search was conducted on this invention and revealed the following United States patents;

U.S. Pat No 5671611 is a square cooler with a square container inside, discloses a cooler with a relatively narrow coolant compartment immediately within the insulated side walls of the cooler. This coolant compartment surrounds the food and beverage compartment. Each compartment has its own means to drain liquid. Ice can easily be poured into the coolant compartment because of a means for forming a funnel like effect, which funnel like effect shall extend around its top. There are separate means to seal each compartment at its top against the surrounding ambient temperature, and also provide individual access to each compartment.

This patent seems to be designed and marketed toward the cooling of a food compartment, because of the tightly sealed lids. If it was used for a beverage container it could not possibly provide the same solution as The Double Cooler, this patent used as a beverage cooler clearly has a ventilation concern. With a tight lid and no means of ventilation to allow an even flow of air, as the beverage is released, the beverage will not leave the container, due to the created vacuum. This patent used as a beverage container could provide the same solution but will not work as desired or described, supporting my claim as stated from 1) The **abstract** states, "there are **separate means to seal each compartment at its top against the surrounding ambient temperature**, and also provide individual access to each compartment", 2) In the **Claims** it states c. said cooler in which each compartment is separately accessible from the outside of the cooler without having to access the other compartment, **because each compartment has a means to seal its top against the ambient temperature surrounding the cooler**, this means can allow access to its respective compartment individually, when the means is not being used to seal its respective compartment. 3) no where does it provide a detailed description or on the drawing a way to provide a venting system of air into the cooler as needed. This patent has solved the problems of separating food and ice from cross contamination but through its design may not solve the distribution of beverage as described.

In the **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION 2. Prior Art**, it is compared with a "cooler chest" which as per drawing is a square cooler. This U.S. Pat. No 5671611 does not compare in form, design nor function with The Double Cooler that is round and

designed as described. The Double Cooler cools the beverage without dilution and through its ventilation and lid design allows a free flowing distribution of beverage from both containers.

U.S. Pat. No. 2104684 Sanitary milk cooling cabinet, discloses a milk cooling cabinet having a central container therein to receive food products and cooled from ice in outer compartment

U.S. Pat. No. 3338068 Cooler chest for independent container, discloses a cooler chest with independent container inside

U.S. Pat. No. 3395550 Compartmented ice chest, discloses two separate storage compartments

U.S. Pat. No. 3959982 Refrigeration unit, discloses a refrigeration unit with peripheral seals and separate doors

U.S. Pat. No. 4286440 Compartment cooler, discloses a departmental cooler having separate compartments for beverage bottles and a central compartment

U.S. Pat. No. 4502295 Organ hypothermic storage unit, discloses a cooler having two compartments for the use of organ cooling for transportation

U.S. Pat. No. 4633678 Keg cooler, discloses a cooler to keep a keg cool

U.S. Pat. No. 4910975 Condiment Cooler, discloses a condiment cooler with separate compartments that sits above the ice

U.S. Pat. No. 5353607 displays a continuous drainage system for use with a insulated cooler

U.S. Pat. No. 5295369 has three compartments that separate food from ice

U.S. Pat. No. 5329787 has a freezable block contained in the beverage compartment

Double Cooler / Bill of Materials

10/21/03

| <i>part</i> | <i>dwg.no.</i> | <i>description</i> |
|--------------------|----------------|---|
| Assembly | 534-100 | Fully assembled product |
| Outer Shell | 534-101 | Blow Molded Polyethylene |
| Inner Shell | 534-102 | Blow Molded Polyethylene |
| Core | 534-103 | Blow Molded Polyethylene |
| Lid | 534-104 | Blow Molded Polyethylene |
| Handle (2 plcs) | 534-105 | Existing Injection molded part |
| Screw (6 plcs) | - | #8-18 x 1.125 Truss Head Tapping Screw, Stainless Steel |
| Cup Holder Bracket | 534-106 | Existing Injection molded part |
| Screw (2 plcs) | - | #6-20 x 1/2 Truss Head Tapping Screw, Stainless Steel |
| Tap Assy (2 plcs) | 534-107 | Existing assembly of Injection molded parts |
| Tile | - | Existing fabricated part, 3/16 dia. Nylon woven cord w/ crimp clamp |
| Insulation | - | Foamed in place |